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C L A R E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

in the

A D M I N I S T R A T I V E C O U N T Y O F W E S T S U F F O L K

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of
Clare, in the County of West Suffolk, for the year
ended the 31st December, 1963

Public Health Department,
Severals House,
Newmarket.

November, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Clare Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1963.

I wish to express my appreciation of the help afforded me in
compiling the Report by the Clerk of the Council and the Engineer and
Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

My thanks are also offered to the Chairman and all members of the
Public Health Committee for their very real help and encouragement
throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. FARNILL MORGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

1. (Figures in brackets throughout the Report relate to the previous year)

Area of the District	(49,360 acres)	49,360 acres
Number of Parishes	(24)	24
Rateable Value	£85, 983	£164, 785
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	(£366)	(£754)
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate book	(2,906)	2,885
Population (Registrar General's June 1962 Estimate)	(9,380)	June 1963 9,500
Population (1961 census)	(8,815)	8,815

2. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

(a) Medical Officer of Health who also serves other Districts

(b) Senior Public Health Inspector:-

Mr. H.A. Smith (appointed November, 1944) who also holds the
office of Engineer and Surveyor.

Additional Public Health Inspector:-

Mr. R.J. Blandamer (commenced duties with the Council on 1st March
1963)

(c) A Senior and two additional Public Health Inspectors and four
authorised officers are appointed for the purpose of whole time
meat inspection at the Little Wratting Abattoir.

3. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>				
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	67	131	(119)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	7	(5)
Totals								70	68	138	(124)			
Live birth rate per 1,000 population								..	..	14.5	(13.2)	
Corrected birth rate (Comparability Factor 1.13)								..	..	16.4	(16.0)	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales								..	..	18.2	(18.0)	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births								..	..	5.1	(4.0)	
<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>				
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	7	(4)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	(-)
Totals								5	2	7	(4)			
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births								..	..	48.3	(31.3)	
" " " " " " " " " (Eng & Wales)								..	..	17.3	(18.1)	
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>				
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	69	138	(123)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	7	(5)
Totals								75	70	145	(128)			
<u>DEATHS</u>								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>				
Death rate per 1,000 population								62	45	107	(111)			
Corrected death rate (Comp. Factor 0.92)								..	..	10.3	(9.0)	
Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)								..	..	12.2	(11.9)	
<u>INFANT MORTALITY - Deaths of infants under one year of age</u>														
								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>				
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1	(4)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	(-)
Totals								-	1	1	(4)			
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATE</u>														
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births								..	..	7.2	(32.3)	
" " " " " " " " " (Eng. & Wales)								..	..	20.9	(21.4)	
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legit. live births								..	..	7.6	(33.6)	
Illegitimate " " " " illegit. " " .. ..								..	..	-	(-)
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>														
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births								..	..	7.2	(32.3)	
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>														
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births								..	..	7.2	(24.2)	
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>														
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total								live and stillbirths						
								55.2 (54.7)						
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u>														
Number of deaths (including abortion)								..	..	Nil	(1)	
Death rate per 1,000 total live and still births								..	..	-	(7.8)	
<u>RATES FOR PREVIOUS YEARS.</u>								1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Adjusted birth rates								21.0	14.1	17.7	16.8	16.1	16.0	16.4
Adjusted death rates								10.2	9.6	10.9	9.1	10.4	9.0	10.3

4. CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (all forms).....	(0) 2	(0) 0	(0) 2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	(0) 1	(0) 0	(0) 1
Cancer (all types).....	(8)11	(6) 8	(14)19
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	(0) 1	(0) 0	(0) 1
Vascular lesions of nervous system...	(11) 6	(11) 8	(22)14
Heart disease (all forms).....	(23)17	(10)15	(33)32
Other circulatory disease.....	(3) 5	(3) 4	(6) 9
Influenza.....	(1) 1	(1) 0	(2) 1
Pneumonia.....	(4) 3	(3) 3	(7) 6
Bronchitis.....	(0) 6	(2) 2	(2) 8
Other diseases of respiratory system.	(0) 2	(0) 1	(0) 3
Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	(0) 1	(0) 0	(0) 1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	(5) 1	(6) 3	(11) 4
Congenital malformations.....	(1) 0	(0) 0	(1) 0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....		(1) 0	(1) 0
Motor vehicle accident.....	(0) 1	(0) 1	(0) 2
All other accidents.....	(1) 4	(1) 0	(2) 4
Total(all causes)	(57)62	(44)45	(101)107

5. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever.....	(1) 2	(0) 2	(1) 4
Whooping Cough.....	(0) 0	(0) 1	(0) 1
Measles.....	(3)94	(1)96	(4)190
Dysentery.....	(0) 6	(0) 0	(0) 6
Puerperal Pyrexia.....		(1) 0	(1) 0
	(4)102	(2)99	(6)201

6. TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
1. Cases at commencement 1963.	21	6	2	2	31
2. First notified during 1963.	-	2	-	-	2
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	1	-	-	-	1
5. Cases removed from Register	-	2	1	-	3
6. Remaining at the end of 1963	22	6	1	2	31

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY YOUR CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:-

A. WATER SUPPLIES

The Council's main sources of supply are at Great Wrattling and Depden.

Water is pumped from duplicate boreholes at Great Wrattling to an underground storage reservoir near Hundon Hall which supplies nineteen of the parishes in the area and also the Stradishall R.A.F. Station. Analysis shows the water to be wholesome and fit for drinking. It is chlorinated at the source. Hardness is given as 401 parts per million.

Five parishes in the north of the area are supplied from the Depden Tower with water pumped from the Thingoe R.D.C. reservoir in the adjoining parish of Rede. This water is shown on analysis to be wholesome and fit for drinking purposes and with a hardness of 272 parts per million.

Bulk supplies are given to Mildenhall, Thingoe and Haverhill Councils and a supply to seven houses in the Halstead Rural area.

A supply is received from Haverhill U.D.C. for the Meldham Bridge area of Withersfield parish for a population of about forty, and about fifteen people in the Stansfield and Hawkedon parishes receive a direct supply from the mains of Melford R.D.C. which pass through those parishes.

92 houses are supplied at Stoke-by-Clare from the mains of the Stoke College Estate.

At the end of the year the number of houses receiving a mains supply was 2975 or 94.6% of the total houses in this area.

During the year work on the new booster station at Great Wrattling was completed. The scheme costing £105,000 will provide for a supply of up to 750,000 gallons per day.

The schedule on the following page shows the number of houses supplied from mains, with water satisfactory both in quality and quantity to a population, based on the Registrar General's estimate of June, 1963, of 8,923 or 93.9% of the total inhabitants in the area.

WATER SUPPLY TO HOUSES AT 31st December, 1963

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC MAINS				OWN SUPPLY	
	Direct to Houses		By Standpipe		Occupied	Empty
	Occupied	Empty	Occupied	Empty		
<u>LOW LEVEL AREA</u>						
Barnardiston	27	7	4	1	2	-
Bradley - Great	62	3	12	3	1	2
Bradley - Little	19	2	-	-	4	-
Cavendish	188	4	41	5	21	1
Clare	416	9	69	22	9	6
Denston	37	3	18	6	-	-
Hawkedon	44	3	4	3	2	1
Hundon	144	4	36	6	4	2
Kedington	146	4	46	6	9	6
Poslingford	43	2	19	4	11	3
Stansfield	60 A	6	21	2	2	6
Stoke-by-Clare	65	1	6	1	86 B	6
Stradishall	73 C	2	10	3	3	-
R. A. F.	100					
Thurlow - Great	63	1	12	-	3	1
Thurlow - Little	68	2	18	10	1	-
Wixoe	26	-	3	2	3	-
Wratting - Great	56	4	9	3	-	2
Wratting - Little	44	2	9	3	2	-
Withersfield	83 D	2	38	5	9	2
Wickhambrook	148	13	55	4	13	3
Total	1912	74	430	89	185	39
Population	6306		1416		607	
<u>HIGH LEVEL AREA</u>						
Cowlinge	78	6	15	5	2	3
Depden	49	1	4	3	3	2
Ousden	51	2	19	4	4	2
Lidgate	63	6	13	4	-	2
Wickhambrook	37	10	11	3	9	1
Total	278	25	62	19	18	10
Population	914		201		56	
Totals	2190	99	492	108	203	49
Population	7220	-	1617	-	663	-

A. Includes 3 houses supplied by Melford R.D.C.

B. Supplied by Stoke College Estate mains.

C. Includes 2 houses supplied by R.A.F. Station

D. Includes 15 houses supplied by Haverhill U.D.C.

SUMMARY

Total occupied houses at 31. 12. 63	-	2885
" empty " " "	-	256
" dwellings in the area	-	3141
" receiving mains water	-	2975
	-	94.6%

B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Modern Disposal Works, about one half mile east of Clare accept and treat sewage from Clare and Cavendish. There are four pumping stations and a sludge pump at the Works which are designed for a population of 2,400. Analysis of final effluent shows in general that the works are giving good results. A full time caretaker is employed who is assisted on average four hours per week, in de-sludging and clearance of screenings and sludge etc.

It became obvious early last year, that if housing development proceeded on land given planning consent for that use, these works would be overloaded. The Council decided to have plans prepared to increase the size of works, together with pumping mains and additional sewers to permit the treatment of sewage from a population of 6,000, and to include in the Scheme the hamlet of Chilton Street and the village of Poslingford.

It is hoped to present such scheme to the Ministry next year with a request that part of the work be allowed to proceed in advance of the main scheme, to permit imminent housing development in Clare and Cavendish.

Kedington and Great Wratting

The works were completed and formally opened in June. The cost being £110,000. Works were designed for a population of 2,100.

Hundon and Stoke-by-Clare

Both these village schemes are in progress and should be completed next year.

Other Village Schemes.

A start on village schemes at Withersfield, Lidgate and Wickhambrook is to be made next year. The Council will no doubt proceed to investigate the possibility of sewerage the Parishes of Ousden and Cowlinge also.

The schemes for Great and Little Thurlow and Great Bradley are being examined following a Ministry investigation, and plans are being prepared to sewer these villages and also Little Bradley with a joint disposal works at Thurlow. This scheme should commence early 1965.

The possibility of village schemes for Hawkedon, Stansfield and Denston are also to be discussed.

C. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

Household bin refuse is collected fortnightly from about 90 per cent of the houses in your area in all 24 parishes.

Collection is done by three fulltime employees and two vehicles.

Cesspools on Council house sites throughout the area are cleaned out under contract each quarter, and a scheme for clearance of private cesspools now in operation is proving to be of considerable benefit to householders, both from a health point of view and financially.

Refuse tips are in use at Kedington and Denston, and rodent control thereon is carried out by your own staff.

Collection of waste paper is done at the time of bin collection and paper sold unsorted in bulk. Collection of trade refuse is undertaken once a week in Clare, and a charge is made for this service.

D. INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a statement of the number and nature of inspections made by the Department during the year under various Acts, Orders and Byelaws in force within the area.

PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES

Housing (Defects and nuisances).....	14
Housing Acts.....	80
Drainage installation and Building Byelaws....	291
Housing Maintenance.....	38
Factory Acts.....	35
Factory Outworkers.....	9
Infectious Diseases.....	18
Verminous Premises.....	5
Refuse collection and disposal.....	36
Caravans.....	21
Petroleum Acts.....	26
Rodent Control (including farms) and L.A.Premises	26
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards (Meat).....	9
Food Inspection.....	29
Food Hygiene.....	16
Water Supply.....	19
Other matters.....	12

There has been a reduction in the number of inspections made due to the Department being short staffed, illness, and also the great increase in inspections by your Additional P.H.I. in Building Byelaws Control.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS.

The operation by the Council of Discretionary and Standard Grant schemes, in accordance with the Housing Act, have contributed in no small measure to the amount of improvement work and modernisation that continues to be carried out to properties in the area.

Since the scheme commenced 353 cottages have been improved with the aid of discretionary grants and 65 by way of standard grants.

PRE-WAR COUNCIL HOUSES.

Grant aid by the Ministry has assisted the Council in adding baths, water closets and hot water systems to 186 houses.

A further 70 are to be improved next year and as and when main sewers are available.

E. PROCEDURE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

.. Housing complaints investigated.....	9
Informal notices sent to Owners.....	2
Complaints abated.....	2
Houses rendered fit after informal action.....	Nil
Statutory notices served.....	Nil
Prosecutions.....	Nil

PROCEDURE UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

Houses on which demolition order were made.....	1
Houses on which Closing Orders were made.....	-
Houses demolished by owners.....	2
Undertakings to make fit accepted.....	1
Houses made fit.....	1

NEW HOUSING AND HOUSING PROGRESS

Council houses built and occupied.....	15
Council bungalows built and occupied.....	-
Private dwellings built and occupied.....	27

A block of five old houses in Clare have been purchased and demolished. It is expected that during next year eight flatlets for aged people will have been erected.

At the end of the year 366 Council post-war dwellings had been built and occupied and 32 were under construction.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are none in the area.

CARAVANS.

There are a number of individual caravans in the area controlled by an annual consent under the Town and Country Planning Act and every effort is made to see that essential services are available to safeguard the health of the occupants.

No licences are in being under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

PET SHOPS AND BOARDING KENNELS.

There are none in the area.

F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food premises in the area

General Grocers.....	36
Butchers Shops.....	5
Greengrocers.....	1
Fish Shops.....	1
Bakers.....	4
Cafes.....	2
Public Houses.....	43

Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the area.

The following premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

General stores and shops.....	22
Bakers.....	1
Public Houses.....	3

Food Hygiene Regulations

Routine inspection of food premises made during 1963 showed a general high standard of cleanliness.

The inspection of mobile food vendors in the district revealed a reasonable standard of hygiene for this type of vehicle.

Offensive Trades

There is one blood drying and gut scraping establishment licensed at the Blunts Hall Abbatoir.

Licensed Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse and two knackers yards in the area.

The following animals (not for human consumption) were received at the Knackers Yards. Humane methods of slaughtering are used.

Cattle.....	315
Horses.....	14
Sheep.....	16
Pigs.....	4

Licensed Slaughtermen

There are 61 licensed slaughtermen residing in the area.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	Nil	Nil	188,245	Nil
Number inspected	Nil		188,245	
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	452	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Not known	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci		Nil	221,691 lbs.	
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	7	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Not known	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	283,476 lbs.	
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	

The bulk of the rejected meat is purchased by a contractor (outside your District) and processed into animals food, fertilizers, glues, greases etc.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Acts 1937 and 1948Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2;3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	3	3	Nil	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	32	12	Nil	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises.	-	-	-	-
Total:	35	15	Nil	Nil

2. No cases of defects were found.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Works	M/c line No.	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(i)(c)
(1)	(2)	(3)
Making of wearing apparel	13	10
Total	13	10

